

Message Text

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PAGE 01 IZMIR 00446 091435Z

44

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-15 JUSE-00

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-10 TRSE-00 USIA-15 NSC-10

SCI-06 OMB-01 AGR-20 DODE-00 PA-03 PRS-01 SPC-03

DRC-01 /111 W

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R 091215Z OCT 73

FM AMCONSUL IZMIR

TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1081

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, SNAR, TU

SUBJECT: DEMIREL VISITS AFYON

1. LOCAL STAFF MEMBER ATTENDED JUSTICE PARTY RALLY
IN AFYON OCT 8. JP MACHINE HAD TURNED OUT FAIRLY
SMALL CROWD OF APPROXIMATELY 1000 WHICH GAVE A
RESTRAINED RECEPTION TO PARTY CHAIRMAN SULEYMAN
DEMIREL. DEMIREL'S SPEECH CONFORMED TO PATTERN OF
PAST WEEK. MAJOR PART OF SPEECH WAS RATIONALIZATION
OF HIS HAVING RESIGNED AS RESULT MARCH 12 MEMORANDUM.
HE THEN MADE PLEAS FOR A REAFFIRMATION OF DEMOCRACY

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BY GIVING JP RESOUNDING MAJORITY ON OCT 14.

2. PRIOR TO SPEECH A FLYER WAS CIRCULATED THROUGH
CROWD (APPARENTLY BY LOCAL RPP ORGANIZATION)
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LISTING 14 QUESTIONS "THE PEOPLE OF AFYON ARE ASKING

MR. DEMIREL". FIRST QUESTION WAS "WHERE IS THE OPIUM?". DURING SPEECH ONE MAN CALLED OUT SEVERAL TIMES "WHAT ABOUT OPIUM?". FINALLY AT END OF SPEECH DEMIREL, APPARENTLY RELUCTANTLY, RESPONDED TO HECKLER. HE SAID THERE WAS AN OPIUM ISSUE TO BE SURE, BUT THAT PEOPLE SHOULD REMEMBER THAT IT WAS NOT HIS GOVERNMENT BUT ONE THAT FOLLOWED MARCH 12 MEMORANDUM THAT HAD BANNED POPPY CULTIVATION. THIS WAS, HE SAID, AN EXCELLENT EXAMPLE OF WHAT HE WAS TALKING ABOUT. A GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE ELECTED BY THE PEOPLE AND BE RESPONSIVE TO THE PEOPLE, ETC., ETC. IN SHORT HE NEATLY SIDESTEPED THE ISSUE WITHOUT EVEN INTIMATING A COMMITMENT TO RESUME PRODUCTION.

3. COMMENT: DEMIREL UNDOUBTEDLY FEELING SOME POLITICAL PRESSURES TO SPEAK OUT ON POPPY ISSUE. FACT THAT HE HAS RESTRAINED HIMSELF AT LEAST IN PART

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DUE TO POLITICAL SITUATION IN FORMER POPPY-GROWING AREAS. THESE PROVINCES WERE AND ARE JP STRONGHOLDS. JP EXPECTS TO HOLD ITS OWN WITH LITTLE DIFFICULTY AND AT SAME TIME IT HAS LITTLE HOPE OF PICKING UP NEW SEATS. IN THIS SITUATION DEMIREL PROBABLY FEELS HE IS BETTER OFF RESISTING TEMPTATION TO JOIN OTHER PARTIES IN PROMISING TO RESUME CULTIVATION.
SMITH

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